



ENE433

NeSA-Writing

2015

GRADE 11

Writing

Scoring Guide

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PERSUASIVE ESSAY

Purpose

- To get the reader to accept the writer's point of view on the issue posed by the writing prompt
- To adopt the writer's way of thinking about the issue posed by the writing prompt

Organizational Pattern

- Introduction
 - ✓ May have a hook or grabber to get the reader's attention
 - ✓ Clearly conveys the writer's opinion/position on the topic/thesis statement
- Body
 - ✓ Provides evidence to support the writer's opinion/purpose
 - ✓ Evidence will be in the form of facts, reasons, examples, details, etc.
 - ✓ Effective transitions show how ideas connect
 - ✓ May present pros and cons of an argument
 - ✓ Anticipates the reader's questions
- Conclusion
 - ✓ Restates the writer's opinion/position, thesis statement, or focus
 - ✓ May summarize the main point included in the body
 - ✓ May include a personal comment or call for action

Writing Topic

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Ideas / Content

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

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One of the biggest values of a community, school or neighborhood is unity. I believe that a community center would be good for helping bring unity to a large group of people in the Lincoln area. Though a large project to think about, it has many benefits. There are many activities that could be held in this center that would bring people together from different backgrounds and situations. My idea of a community center is a building with a gymnasium area, a playground, some classrooms and a daycare area. Having lived in an area with a very nice community center I believe that this idea for a project is the best because it is a project that would affect many people, not only right now, but in the future as well.

To explain the benefits of this project it is necessary to look at the things that could go on within the center. The gym area could have quite a few purposes. It could be used for pick up games of basketball or dodgeball, for both adults and younger people. There could be classes for yoga or aerobics that are free, made up of groups of people who enjoy the same things. Also in this area children could play with tricycles and balls in a supervised, air-conditioned area for the hot or cold months. Lastly, the gymnasium could be host to events such as international potlucks where everyone goes and for free eats good new foods while bringing a dish of their own. Having a gymnasium for free would help not only the unity of the community by bringing people together in one area, but it allows for better health and continued exercise and play for all ages, throughout the hot summers and cold winters that Nebraska experiences. New friends could be made and parents could take a break as they sit out the side knowing that their children are safe to play.

A playground just outside the community center would have lots of the same benefits of the gymnasium and some more. Studies have shown that being outside and exercising is good for your health, with a playground children can be outside playing and their parents could be sitting at benches or picnic tables. Families or groups of friends could to go hang out or just eat a snack outside. Having children play with new friends is good for them because it teaches people of all backgrounds that there aren't that many differences between them. Learning to be friends with everyone and get along at a young age is essential for children if we want them to be productive members of their communities later in life. This is an example of how the community center would benefit the community as a whole for many years.

Lastly, the classrooms are key to the community center. Some can be used for daycare centers at a low cost for parents who are working to support their families. They can be staffed by both volunteers and daycare workers who accept a low pay. Students for young ages at UNL can do student teaching or gain experience at the community center. The children can use the classrooms as well as the gym and playground throughout the day. The class can be used for an after school care for students in elementary school who are home before their parents. Allowing parents to work would help the families enormously. The remaining classrooms can be used for tutoring, study rooms, groups who get together to learn something new such as a cooking class. Music lessons can go on without disrupting families living in close quarters. Being able to learn in a good environment that can be quiet or new could help improve the grades of students of all ages. Education for older people can continue if they organize groups. We know that learning can help communities come together and be happier so this is a clear benefit to the community center.

In conclusion, this project is the best choice by far because it is beneficial to many people in many ways. Having this be free or at a low cost allows many people to be able to be a part of their community and participate, regardless of their financial situation. Exercise and activity, learning and making friends, all of this can help our community be united.

Ideas/Content: 4

4-4-4

The writer conveys a clear opinion regarding the need for a new community center. The content is well focused throughout the response, and the reasoning is logical and compelling. The supporting examples are numerous and relevant.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

The Omaha community is in desperate need of some help in making the community a better place. Omaha comes across as a boring, small town, farmer's town to those from other states. What the Omaha Metro needs is something to make it exciting. Something to bring a little life to the city; to lure in tourists. One thing that we should consider is investing in a variety of entertainment venues. Have you ever been at home and just wished you could have some over priced pizza? Probably not, but it is safe to say that you have at some point and time wanted to go to a place where there are a million thrills a minute. The wind colliding with your face as you drop down that big hill on the rollercoaster. The enticing smell of those overpriced slices of pizza that just might be able to get you to pull your wallet out of your pocket. What the Omaha Metro needs is an amusement park.

The nearest *real* amusement park to Omaha is Adventure Land, which is located in Des Moines, Iowa, and is about two hours away. The benefits of having one in Omaha would be that instead of Iowa getting all of our money in tourists, we keep the money in the state and it goes back to the community. An amusement park is a good idea because it gives teenagers and young adults job opportunities. A theme park could potentially open hundreds of jobs a year. From mechanics, to construction workers, to greeter, concession stand workers, ride operators, to those people who ask to take your picture when you enter the park. The job opportunities seem endless. Also, considering that amusement parks main operating dates consist of about spring break (usually mid March or early April) until about Halloween, it coincides with many of Omaha's other events.

The potential amusement park could attract visitors who are coming to the city for the College World Series. One of the many aspects of baseball is bringing your kids to a game. And *who* likes going to amusement parks? Kids and teens. By this logic, that would mean that not only would it give baseball fans from other states another reason to come to Omaha, but it could lengthen their stay; again bringing in a greater income for both the World Series and the park. The park would also draw for the Cox Classic and many other events. During spring break, the park could keep many college kids from leaving the state. The other effect that the park would have is on the community as a whole.

Along with jobs, the park would be a great social hangout. Instead of having Troubled youth on the streets or indoors participating in questionable activities, they could meet up at the park and have a good time. During the summer, many kids clubs and day cares could use this as an opportunity for a field trip. If the park were to be in close proximity to the zoo, then it could get the families spend all day at both places; were there to be a collaboration. Many kids have always wanted to go to an amusement park but their families could never afford to take them to one. This park could be an affordable, close to home, solution to that problem.

In summary, Omaha needs an amusement park because it could potentially provide a large income and bring tourists to our city. It would create hundreds of jobs and give kids an opportunity to have some close to home fun during the summer. The park could bring in an even larger crowd to or well known state events (CWS). Lastly, it could change the perspective of Omaha as a boring farm town into, **Omaha. Home of the College World Series. Henry Doorley Zoo. and MetroLand. the Amusement Park of the Huskers.**

Ideas/Content: 4

4-4-4-4

The writer conveys a clear opinion regarding the need for an amusement park. The content is well focused on the benefits of the amusement park to the community, and the writer provides logical and compelling reasons to convince the reader to agree with their position. The supporting examples are thoroughly developed, numerous and relevant.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

If a committee in your town chose to fund something to improve your school, what would you have them improve? Some might suggest improving the athletic facilities, or maybe a new and better parking lot. Both of those are good ideas, but if a project to improve our school was started, I think it should be to add a way of transport from the first to the third floor for injured or handicapped people.

The main reason I think this should happen is because I've seen how hard it is for people on crutches to get up and down stairs. I've also experienced it myself, and it is very difficult and not fun at all. The school could also have a student enrolled that is in a wheelchair, and if that was the situation right now, that student would have to sit in one room for all their classes, because they have no way of getting up and down the stairs. If a transport device was built into the staircase, it would make school easier for everyone. It lowers the chances of falling down the stairs and getting hurt. The ones using it also won't get in other peoples' way, and other people won't be slowed down by them.

Some people might ask about students using it that don't need to, but they do anyway because they're too lazy to walk up the stairs. I think they shouldn't be able to use it like that, and this needs to be enforced by the teachers. The student or students should then receive a punishment because what they are doing is uncalled for and unnecessary. They might not like that at first, but it should really make sense to them as time goes on. This will help them also to learn to respect the rules, and they'll learn they can't just do something because it's there and they want to use it.

The last reason for this addition to the school is to gain students that might not have come to this school in the past. They might have been looking at schools in the area, and seen ours and liked everything about it. That is, everything except the fact that we don't have a way of transport up and down the floors other than the stairs. A student in a wheelchair would not want to come to a school like that, because they wouldn't be able to gain many friends by sitting in one room all day. Adding in this transport could help our school grow and get new people in the future.

Making it easier to get from one floor to the next, respecting other people's needs, and gaining future enrollments of students are all reasons to have a transport added for handicapped or injured people. Students already have a hard time in school the way it is, and adding this would only make it easier for them. I think if a fund was started for a school project, then the project should be to add a transport for handicapped and injured people. It would be a great improvement to our school, and it would be a great improvement to some student's lives.

3-3-3-3

Ideas/Content: 3

The writer conveys a general opinion about the need for a new method of transport between floors of a building (an elevator?). The content is generally focused on three main reasons the writer believes the elevator is needed, and the reasoning is logical and somewhat convincing, but is not compelling. The supporting examples are adequate and relevant, but many opportunities to thoroughly develop the reasoning and elaborate on the details have been missed.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

A Subway in our rural community of Bloomfield would be perfect. It's healthy for you, so all the students and local townspeople can get some nutrition and a great meal. It makes a great snack after a music concert or football game. It also means it is alot closer and that you don't have to travel as far to places like Norfolk and Yankton as much. Putting a Subway here in town would benefit our community all the way from the little kids to the elderly.

Subway is healthy food and has all your daily foods needed. It has its breads, meats, dairy, vegetables, fruits and some sugars. Subway also makes the sub accordinly to you, so if you don't want cheese, then you just tell them. You can also order a salad. Subway is healthy no matter what way you look at it. In today's society Nebraska is known for being one of the top states for having the heaviest people. Expanding Subway's would help decrease this number.

Subway also makes a great snack. So after a football game, or any other type of athletics or extra curiculer activities, you can come down to Subway and grab a bite to eat. Also there are clubs like FFA and FCCLA that have after school meetings and Subway offers a party platter, I think that would be great to have for snacks during some of these meetings.

If there were to be a Subway in town, it would make it more accesible. I say this because you don't have to drive and hour to get to Norfolk or Yankton. You could limit some trips and save some gas. Having in town could also mean that the elderly could have some every once in a while, since they don't get out as often as they use to.

Subway is a choice resturaunt, you can have your sandwich, or salad, made anyway you want it to be made. Subway would make after game meals alot better and alot healthier. I could also grab one on the way home after practice. Having a Subway here in my community would make everything better. It is the healthiest fast food resturaunt. It makes a great snack after school activities, and could be a lot closer to home.

Ideas/Content: 3

3-3-3-3

The writer conveys a general opinion about the need for a Subway restaurant in a rural community. The content is generally focused on why a Subway shop would be an asset to the town. The reasoning is logical and somewhat convincing, but not particularly compelling. Supporting examples for each of the three main ideas are adequate and relevant, but the development of a strong, convincing opinion for any one of the three ideas has not been achieved.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

A project will benefit the school, neighborhood, or community would be reducing and destroying old buildings in the community. Even though some of the building are historical. Change is coming to the way we live today. New technology is coming out every single day faster than we know it. A good project that will improve the school, neighborhood, or community is getting rid of the old building that is not in use because their old and will cave in, don't have to spend money maintaining the buildings, the community looking better with out them.

Tearing down the old building that no one uses anymore would benefit the school by having more money in school funding because they are not maintaining the old buildings. The building that are old and not even historical are just taking up space that new business should be or will be.

getting rid of all the old buildings would help neighborhood look better and not have to worry about the old buildings falling down because of rotted wood and other bad materials used when the building was first built. Just start fresh with the new building projects.

Getting rid of all the old buildings would improve the community because, it would have a business flow. There would be something to do in the community other than just look at old rotted buildings that would fall on you if you step inside and shut the door to hard.

All the old building that are here would improve the community if they were not here. There would be more money in the community because they are not maintaining the old buildings. New businesses would open up in empty lots of space.

Ideas/Content: 2

2-2-2-2

The writer conveys a limited opinion about destroying old buildings in the community. While the reasoning is somewhat logical and convincing, the writer's opinion that the community should demolish old buildings is not adequately supported with enough examples or reasoning, and the writer has not adequately explained which buildings should be torn down and why, or what should be erected in their place. The details are somewhat vague leaving the reader with many unanswered questions.

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Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

If there was a committee that would put the money out for someone to help our community. I would use that money to build a shelter for the homeless people that live in our community. I would build this shelter because I feel bad for the people that live out in the cold and have no place to stay. There are people in my community that live in the tunnel by the park because they have no place to stay. They live these lives because they like to drink a lot and spend all of their money on alcohol. I agree that they choose that way of life but I am the kind of person that thinks of others for them.

There would be a treatment in the back of that homeless center. For all of those who come to stay in the shelter that have a drinking problem. I would set it up so that there was 25 beds in the front of the shelter. It would have a kitchen so that way they could cook their food that they bring in. It would have two bathrooms one for the men and one women's bathroom. You would go down some stairs and there would be the washer and the drier.

There treatment would be an hour long every day. They would be talked to about how and why do they drink. Once they figured out a way to help them stop drinking. On the front of the homeless center there would be a sign that say NO DRINKING in this shelter. If there was drinking in the shelter it would be confiscated. It would have probably lose most of our people staying in the room because most of the people in my community drink a lot.

This is one way I would help my community, neighborhood, and school. There are many of ways that I could help my school. I would do lots more to the building if the committee would allow it.

Ideas/Content: 2

2-2-2-2

The writer conveys a limited opinion about the need for a homeless shelter in the community. While the content does generally stay focused on the topic, the supporting examples are limited in their development and the reasoning is only somewhat logical and convincing. The writer also digresses somewhat from their position, by suggesting the shelter proposal probably wouldn't work anyway.

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In the small town of _____, there are many things our community could improve. For example we could improve school materials, renovate the park, or even try to make our community more safe. But since there is only enough money to fund one project, the decision become a more serious task. Personally I would strive to renovate our parks. The parks in _____ have been neglected far to long, whether it would be the baseball and softball fields, the rundown frisbee golf course, or the old tennis and basketball courts.m

Ideas/Content: 1

1-1-2-2

The writer conveys little opinion about the need to renovate the community parks. This response has few if any supporting examples, as the writer's argument is vague and not elaborated adequately. The minimal development of any content also results in a lack of any logical reasoning and the reader is not persuaded to agree with the writer's opinion in any way.

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Dear, local committee

I would like to propose a suggestion an idea that will improve our community and country as a unity. Its just a simple message that has to be transmitted through out the country. to help children from preschool through the stage of becoming young adults focusing on the message on how really education is important to improve the life styles they will live in the future becoming our nation next generation to bloom success into our country .the importance of this project to be started is very critical to the mental stage of our children in this time of age. young adults in high school barely realize that school is an essencial thing that will help them in there future life but the way this world has become kids have lost the spark to learn not beacuse the have to beacuse it shouldnt just be a "i have to" thing education school should be an excitement to be sitting in a chair in a class room in front of a teacher that will give them exact knowledge that kids will be able to process easier.

Thats what many parents would want to start a program that will help teachers ,students, schools and our our country. help get students to see that school is not something that should be a boreing thing but a fun learning enviroment. we would like to help students get more motivated. start meetings with parents/guardians to discuss what would be appropriate decisions to take incount.but children need to learn from a young age to get that mentality that school is important. we can support after school. as parents they have a big role to get this to be stable program they need to have more time with their kids.

Ideas/Content: 1

1-1-2-1

The writer conveys little opinion about a program, but the central idea as to what exactly the project involves is unclear and confusing. The content lacks development of reasons or supporting ideas. The reasoning is unclear. The writer has failed to present a persuasive argument to the reader.

Organization

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

My community is a very calm and quaint area. I typically fail to see any issues about my community. Usually, due to the small size of Lincoln if any problems do occur they are usually solved fairly quickly. The only problem I see that the city of Lincoln struggles with the most that puts lots of drivers and pedestrians in danger are the traffic lights. That seems like a typically out of the ordinary problem, since traffic lights are such a vital piece of equipment in the driving and pedestrian world. Although, due to Lincoln's negligence, has become a reoccurring problem. Red lights either last for prolonged periods of time, turning lights last for two seconds at a time, and big crosswalks tend to give pedestrians very little time to cross safely to their destination.

Why might traffic lights remaining red be a danger, you may ask? Well, a great example of why this is a danger, was very evident on 20th and Randolph, an intersection very near Lincoln High School near the south doors. I would have to use that traffic light to turn into my destination's entrance road and the turning lane light would never turn green and my mother and I would end up sitting there for five even ten minutes at a time. Why did we wait so long? We are law-abiding citizens. If that light wasn't green, we weren't going to go. At least, she wouldn't, I was perfectly okay with turning when the opposite lane had a red light and there was no cars coming from either direction. My mom is a different type of citizen. Eventually, my mom would have to abandon her safety instincts and turn left on that road even if the light did not give her permission to. What is the danger in that? We could of not of seen a car turning around the bend and could've gotten hit all because that light turned green, and if it did it would last for a second. The danger that traffic light put my family and I in, not only in an increased risk situation, but a morally disobeying situation as well.

Not only are the malfunctioning lights an issue, their timers are also an issue for drivers. For example, if I'm taking a left turn on 48th and O to enter onto 48th st, I'm lucky if I get a light that lasts longer than three seconds. How is this a danger? This is dangerous for drivers because, if they are trying to get to their occupations to earn a wage to contribute to the community itself, they cannot get there on time if that light is just such a short span of time. Thus, if being a hurry, they will turn anyway if it's yellow going on red. I believe these timers should be extended, but not so it's longer than the other lights. I believe all the lights should have the same time timer. One minute and thirty seconds for each light transition. That way, traffic is constantly moving and no one is left sitting and having to consider risking their or their passengers lives in order to make those two second lights.

Another reoccurring issue I see is not only with the drivers lights, but the pedestrians lights as well. These pedestrian crosswalks give pedestrians 30 seconds, if that, to cross a street that will take longer than that. Bringing 48th and O back into the picture, a pedestrian to walk across the length of O street takes longer than 30 seconds. That walk is lengthier *especially* if that pedestrian is a senior citizen. How can a senior citizen, after years of living and their physical endurance is not as long lasting, cross a four-lane car street in 30 seconds? Even if the light turns green for the drivers, they do not always hesitate for the pedestrians putting them in great danger. I myself have almost been hit by a driver for my pedestrian light turning red after only twenty seconds of walking across 48th street. Luckily, I was not hit, but this is just incredibly dangerous and there needs to be longer periods of time for a pedestrian to make it across.

In no way am I saying ALL of our traffic lights are a complete and utter failure. All I'm trying to address is that typically the busier intersections are more of a risk for drivers and pedestrians. Instead of ignoring these issues, or prolonging their fixes I believe we should hop right on it. I'm very satisfied to say that traffic lights is one of our biggest concerns as a community at the moment. I just seek to obtain some satisfactory solutions to the problems I have addressed today.

Organization: 4

4-4-4-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about traffic lights. Transitional phrases are used effectively to connect the ideas between paragraphs and strong transitions along with the use of rhetorical questions connect ideas within the body of each paragraph. Pacing is well-controlled and paragraphing is sound. An adequate conclusion is evident.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

How many hours of her life does a woman spend shopping? Never enough if you ask her! The people of Hastings spend a ridiculous amount of time driving thirty minutes, or longer, to find a decent place to shop. That is why we need a real mall in Hastings. The committee should vote for this project because it will be a positive hangout for teenagers, it will save people time, and it will bring people to Hastings.

A common misconception is that all teenagers are hoodlums. This, however, is not true. Most are just bored and have nothing to do; therefore, constructing a mall would be the perfect place for them to get together. There isn't much to do in Hastings when you're young, so most of them drive to different towns to do things, which isn't good for the economy of Hastings and surely it makes their parents a bit uneasy. In these technology ridden days the only way teens ever seem to communicate is by text. They hardly seem to call each other anymore. Building the mall would be a brilliant way to bring them together to talk and actually interact with each other.

Teenagers obviously wouldn't be the only beneficiaries of the mall. Adults would benefit greatly too. By not commuting to Grand Island to do their shopping they would be saving about an hour out of their day, which is a lot to any parent. With all of the stores in one convenient Hastings location, they aren't wasting all day running all over town to pick up fifty different things. This would be especially helpful during the holidays while shopping for gifts. When a mom has a twelve-year-old and a fifteen-year-old who both want to hang out with their friends on opposite sides of the town, it can get pretty stressful; but when they both want to hang out at the mall while she goes shopping, that's eminently handy for her. She can just have them meet her outside of Target and take them home at four o'clock.

How many years has it been since the Hastings mall was actually full of stores? Five? Ten? I remember a few years ago when we were getting our carpet redone at our house the men who were doing it were from Grand Island. They went on their lunch break and saw that there was a big Food Court sign on the mall, so they thought that they would go check it out. As they walked in they noticed that there wasn't anyone there, nor were there any restaurants. Needless to say, they were extremely disappointed. That's not the impression that Hastings wants to give to people. We want to show them that we are expanding and that we are doing well for ourselves. We want to make people know where Hastings is on the map. People shouldn't say, "Where's that? I've never heard of it before." This mall, if successful, could make them say, "Oh, Hastings! I heard you guys have that really great mall! I'd like to go there someday."

In conclusion teenagers would thoroughly enjoy the mall as a place to get together. Adults would thrive on the convenience of the mall, and the mall would help put Hastings on the map. The committee should vote for this project because it will be a positive hangout for teenagers, it will save people time, and it will bring people to Hastings. I now challenge you, the local committee. Will you sit back and watch your city wilt away, or will you take action?

Organization: 4

4-4-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about the need for a new mall in the community. A strong and effective introduction grabs the reader's attention and clearly conveys the writer's opinion and sets up the main points of the essay. Pacing is well-controlled as the essay flows through each of the main points. Strong transitional phrases are used effectively to connect the ideas, and an effective conclusion, that includes a call to action, restates the writer's position and opinion about the need for a mall. Paragraphing is sound.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

I think that the best project would be a community youth building. This would be a good idea because: it would give the youth something to do, it would give the youth a place to go instead of getting in trouble, and it would benefit the parents because there would be a place for their child to go that wasn't in their home. I think that a community youth building would benefit the youth of the town and the whole town in general.

My first reason for having a youth building is that the building would give the easily distracted youth something to do. This building should include pool tables, air hockey, ping pong tables, and a larger area where you can do different types of group activities. The building should also have a place in it that makes pizza and sub sandwiches so that the kids could go out with friends and still be able to eat something that was somewhat nutritional. This building idea would keep them busy and get them excited to do something that is not going to hurt them in the long run.

My next reason for having a youth building is it would keep the youth out of trouble. I say this because in my small rural town of Gordon, Nebraska, there is not a whole lot that the youth can do. My town's movie theatre is closed and there is nothing for kids to do but drive around in their cars all hours of the night. The youth gets in trouble for drinking, the use of tobacco, and driving wrecklessly because there is nothing for them to do in my town. So this community youth building would provide structure to those kids who are out causing trouble in the town.

Finally, I believe that having a community youth building in our town would be the best idea for a project because the place would give the kids a place to go instead of directly going home every day. I understand that it is good to be at home. But, sometimes the youth just want to get away from all of the daily activities of a household. I think that the building would also relieve some of the stress parents develop while watching and taking care of their children. All I am saying is that the building would give parents a break and the youth a break from the everyday turmoil that we all go through in our daily routines.

In conclusion, I believe that the best project for the local committee to fund would be a community youth center. I believe this because it would give the youth some place to go after school and activities that would allow them to hang out with friends and not get into trouble doing so. Over all it would boost the happiness of the community. The community needs to take care of its youth and give them a little freedom, because when the community gets old, the youth then is in charge. The youth needs a place to go that will stimulate the growth of their minds that doesn't include looking at a television or computer screen.

Organization: 3

3-3-3-3

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is functional in this response about a community youth building. Functional transitions introduce the three main ideas in the body of the essay. Pacing is generally controlled, with an even flow of ideas in a typical five paragraph organizational structure. Paragraphing is generally successful. A general summary conclusion reiterates the writer's opinion and restates the three main points of the essay.

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Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Tennis Dome

I believe that this committee should buy a tennis dome for our community. I think that a tennis dome would be great for the community because it would keep kids off the streets, teach them about good sportsmanship, and it is an all-around fun game to play.

A tennis dome would be a great addition to our community because kids would want to come here instead of going and causing trouble somewhere else in the town. It would provide a place for teenagers and adults to come and relax for a little while. If there was someplace they could always go, kids wouldn't feel the need to just wonder aimlessly around until they find a way to cause trouble.

Also, a tennis dome would teach everybody about good sportsmanship. Sometimes, you hit bad shots that you know you could have gotten in and it is so frustrating! Well, I know that tennis teaches you that you can't get mad and give up on yourself just because of one point that you messed up on. People always love to play good sports and I know that a tennis dome would truly be able to nicer to eachother and accept a loss with good poise.

Lastly, a tennis dome would be so much fun to play in! So many kids would gladly come here to play tennis if they knew they could play in a dome. A dome could let everyone be able to play in the winter and not be obstructed by all the snow! Plus, it would provide shade from the sun in the very hot summer.

This is why a tennis dome would be a great addition to our community. It would keep kids off the streets, teach everyone about good sportsmanship, and would be an extraordinary experience for everyone.

Organization: 3

2-3-2-3

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is present in this response about a tennis dome. The functional structure is generally controlled with an introduction that conveys the writer's opinion and introduces the three main points of the argument, and a somewhat weaker conclusion that simply reasserts the writer's opinion. Basic functional transitions that connect the main ideas are evident. Pacing is generally controlled and paragraphing is generally successful.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

A project that I think is important for a local committee to fund is something that would help improve my school. There are many subjects in school that are hard for students to understand. For me, math is not my strong point. Teachers are not always available after school to help and even if they are, there may be a lot of other students who also need help so you might not get the one and one help you need. My solution to this is if schools could hire tutors that actually know and understand the subjects to help kids out after school in the library.

I believe that when a student gets help one on one they understand it a lot better than they do during class. A classroom filled with 20-30 other students can be very distracting. Some students aren't comfortable asking questions in front of everyone, so they chose not to which leaves them confused. It's hard to go home and do math homework when you don't understand the subject you learned in class.

I think this should be added because it can really help improve grades. A lot of families at my school can not afford to hire a tutor for their child or children. It is very easy to fall behind in a math class because every day builds off of the day before. It is important to always understand the concepts of what is happening. A tutor could spend time helping you understand new subjects and make sure you know how to do the problems on your homework. A student would feel more comfortable asking a tutor questions.

Organization: 2

3-2-3-3

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response about the need for tutors at the school. Transitions are weak or missing and pacing is somewhat inconsistent. Paragraphing is irregular and there appears to be no ending or conclusion to the essay.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

I think that we should do a project that we get a skating rink. Everyone needs something to do on the weekends, and this would be a great way to spend time with friends and family.

An advantage to this is that when people come and visit Nebraska City they have something fun to do then just going to historical places. Also the other good thing about this is that highschoolers would have more to do then go to McDonadles and Walmart and get in trouble. We would also make some bank. A con to this is that after a couple years people might get boared with it, but thats when we could add to it. We could add maybe a Sonic in it.

This could maybe help the trouble that the kids are getting into with the police. Another positive to this is that people could have parties and get to gathers there. We could make a lot of money off of this if we could get a place to build it.

Having this would be very beneficial. We would get so many people to Nebraska City each weekend, it would be SO much FUN! We always would have a great time in the city.

This is why we shold build a skating rink in our community. It would be the best thing that goes into the community.

Organization: 2

2-2-2-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response about a skating rink. Pacing is inconsistent and weak transitions only somewhat connect the ideas together. A simple beginning and ending are evident and an attempt at paragraphing is unsuccessful.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Their are so many places we can go for school lunch and many foods we can try if we havent had befor at school. But what is the reason we cant do any of that or have any of that food at central.

hi! I go to High School. Were people come from every were to get into are school because we are none as the best high school in the United States. So why when it comes to central school lunch we dont get the best food that us the studenis desirve and want. Whitch bring me to off school campus lunch.

We have Burger King, Mc. Donolds and all these other places and restranis we can go to to eat bui, instead we have to stay in school. at least if you'er going to keep us in school to eat, bring the outside food in to school.

Because the food you guys are serving us now only about 70% of people dont like it, but they eat it because hollo there is nouthing else here we can eat, but candy and we want reall food im sure. and for the people who have to pay for lunch.

wieth is like all of us really desrive to be choosing and geting the food they want to eat because they are sitting here not speaking up eating this stuff they dont want to because there is no other choose of foods here. same goes for breakfast the breakfast we have here its just sad only thing thats good is the freash fruit and the ceral.

this one time when i was a sophmore i came 2 school and eat breakfast because i was pregnant a hungry so i had to eat. they had some breakfast pizza and i thought ohh ill try that but i must have gotten the wrong peice because

when i tryed it my theird bite into it i threw up because it was so nasty, there was a peice of sasage that was not cooked all the way. now come on yall better then that. so yall say yall the best school were the best food at people would be more happer if we can go get the food we want to spend are money on.

all we asking for is some better food and if yall cant make that happen then try letting us get off campus lunch because there is not many reasons why that is not a option for us only reasons yall do give us is that people want come back on time for class, People are going to do something they aint got no bissness doing but, with out off campus lunch all the reasons yall are giving us about what students would do if there is off campus lunch is happing now even as we speak. And we dont even have off campus lunch.

students are still skipping, being late, fighting and smoking. There is no big differance there. So whats the big dill.

Organization: 1

2-1-2-1

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this response. Ideas are somewhat randomly presented without transitions to connect the ideas together. Pacing is awkward and the paragraphing is missing.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

We should get new text books for school because, the old books may be falling apart and ripping and they won't be able to be used anymore, there may not be enough books for all the students, and some of the books might have incorrect information. An example from the books ripping and falling apart would be from getting too old or students ripping them, an example of why there wouldn't be enough books are because the student's taking them home and not returning them or losing them, and an example for the books having incorrect information is because the people who made and wrote it put the wrong information or didn't know about some of the stuff and thought they put the right information.

Organization: 1

1-1-1-1

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this response about the need for new text books. Pacing is awkward, transitions are missing, and connections are unclear. Paragraphing is missing.

Voice / Word Choice

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Funding Books To Help the School and Community

There is one place where there are worlds waiting to be explored by turning the pages. Books help the educational progress, which is the foundation to every single person. Knowledge is vital for our existence in the current world and generation. The local committee should fund getting a surpassing variety of books in our libraries. Books help further the imagination. They provide a better knowledge and understanding to certain subjects. Furthermore, books can open your vocabulary.

Imagination is key to a child's learning capabilities. As children grow, they have a vast imagination that some people would only dream of having. This is because their minds are young and open to all the possibilities. As kids get older they start losing their imagination. The creativity and uniqueness slowly begins to drain. Yet, with books they can keep it intact. Books help people keep a firm grip on their creativity. They can imagine anything and with help can perhaps even make it become a reality. The miraculous thing about reading a book is that it started off as someone's idea. Then, their idea became printed for all to read. This results in other ideas sprouting after reading. Without imagination there is no inventions. And to keep imagination flowing with age we need the variety amounts of books to be easily available.

Knowledge is power. We, as people, learn in various ways. The age old and still commonly used way is through books. As time has passed people may have kept diaries or journals of their lives happening during certain events through history that we use to better understand the situation he/she was in. These become vital evidence in uncovering major events. For example, without the diary of Anne Frank, some would never have realized just how bad it really was to be a Jew during Hitler's reign. While learning about historical events is one way that books help us but it isn't the only way. The most wonderful thing about having a wide selection of reading is that they can be written about anything. Let's say, if someone was to buy a build-your-own-birdhouse and it came in parts all jumbled in this little bag. People would use the instruction book to help them create this mess into a beautiful little bird house. Another reason why the school should fund more books is because schools need them! Students have projects assigned constantly and need to find references and resources to find the knowledge needed to pass their assignment. Checking out books that are similar to the topic needed can help the student get the grade they need.

People today are lazy. The number of words used today keeps dwindling as years go by. There once was a time when people would speak like, "how are't thou on this luminous day?" Now people speak like, "How you doin'?" The wonderful craft of the language is disappearing. Because of this, it drops our IQ's just a bit with every generation. When people read their vocabulary grows. Everyone wants to be brilliant. The world is beginning to ensure that people must have so many years of schooling to get anywhere good in life. How can students meet these expectations without learning some new words in the process. Reading heightens your focus, and everyone can use a bit more of that to help them achieve. While we can do that in other ways, the best way is through reading and the best way to do that is by having more books.

Having more books available at our school opens more possibilities for us in the future. By being able to read it keeps our imagination intact and strong. People can become inspired and create anything. Knowledge is vital for people to exist in life. Books are needed to help understand. Lastly, having a wide vocabulary will help you in the long run, and the best way to get on is through reading. Books hold the possibility for all things. This is why the local committee should invest in funding to buy more. It will help improve schools, and even the community members.

Voice/Word Choice: 4

4-4-4-4

The writer demonstrates a strong commitment to the idea that the community should provide more books for the school. The language is precise, varied, and engaging throughout the essay. A strong, persuasive voice is well suited for the purpose of convincing a committee to invest in the books. The writer consistently anticipates the reader's questions and effectively relates the topic to how this project would improve the community and the school environments.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

School lunch is something that not alot of kids look forward too. Yes school lunch has developed allot but cooks do not seem to put as much effort as they use to in the food. Now a days your food just comes in a wrapper or package and are premade so all you have to do is warm it up. By looking at the school lunch today, and the school lunch when I was younger, one can see that the effort put into school lunch is disappearing. That is why the school funding should go to lunch.

Today when you walk through the line you smell the vile vegetables that came out of a can and only have to be strained and cooked to mush. They taste like absolutly nothing and have to have allot of pepper and salt on them. When you take a bite they mush in your mouth and slither down your throat like a snake. We have the option to take fruit or vegetables but you only have to take one. The most common one choosen is the fruit because yes it is out of a can but it is not all mush. Plus the cooks dont have to do anything to it so that makes it that much better. The cookies are hard and come out of packages. But every once in a blue moon they actually make the cookies. They are usually still hard as a rock and taste awful because they did not take much time and effort to make them. The rolls are usually hard and flaky and the toast is usually like the texas toast you buy but it is the cheap knock off brand that the schools buy to save money on. So if the funding was used on school lunch we would not have to save money and but all these cheap knock off brands.

In grade school lunch was the best part of school besides recess. You got to school, did all your schoolwork as fast as you could so you did not have homework, and then had lunch and then went to recess. When you went through the line for lunch the food actually smelled good and the food was not in a plastic wrapper. During school you could smell the warm doughy rolls that just melted in your mouth, and the thin but apparent layer of butter that was glazed over the top. Now the cookies were a whole diffrent story. They were moist and warm and not left over from yesterdays meal which happened to be spaghetti which happened to have meat from the sloppy joes that we had two days ago. The cookies were actually warm from being cooked that morning. The food actually had thought put into it and was not just something you got out of a can or package and pre heated for five to ten minutes. The cooks use to put so much time and effort into their cooking; they would show up early in the morning to make and serve the breakfast and then stay the rest of the day till lunch to make the lunch and then clean up. The cooks never left very long before we did.

The thought and time put into lunches today does not even compare to the way it was in elementary. The food was not packaged and pre heated or mush that slithered down your throat. Yes the food has changed for the better over the years but it will never compare to the way school lunch actually use to be. These days it has to be all "healthy" and "nutritious" to meet certain health codes and regulations. School lunch will never be the same so that is why the would funding should go towards our school lunches.

Voice/Word Choice: 4

4-4-4-3

The writer demonstrates a strong commitment to the topic of improving school lunch. The voice is well-suited for the purpose and audience, and the language is precise, varied, specific and engaging throughout. The writer consistently anticipates the reader's questions and effectively uses a somewhat nostalgic tone to highlight the issues and to persuade the audience.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

The frown of a child is just about the worst thing you can cause. It gets caused by many things such as not getting toys, being scared, sad, and even being inside all day. Children have too much energy to be inside all day. Kids want to move until there is nothing else to give, so let's give them a park. The local committee should build or restore Lynch park because it is worn down, it can bring the community closer together, and it is nice for the children.

Lynch park is almost at the point of no return. It is so bad that there are no functional restrooms. No one wants to see a child do their business outside, or see someone changing their baby's diaper on a bench or table on the side of the basketball court. Restrooms are necessary to go to business. There are missing things in the park such as two swings. Children are not the only ones to use swings either, teenagers and adults also use the swings. It is not so safe either, the rubber on the path way to the swings is starting to erode. There are cracks in the pavement to walk on as well as on the basketball court. Let's make this safe for the children again. Let's all bring this back together.

If this park gets rebuilt there is no doubt in my mind that the community will be closer than ever before. All the adults would know each other. Talking to each other about what has happened recently, or what will happen. All while their child is safely playing in the playground. Everyone would have each other's backs so less crime would be committed in the community. It could turn out to be a lot more friendlier than before. People would meet people they never knew were living around them. Thus making new friends and possibly more than that. Then they might go on using the playground with their children.

I have not heard of anything nice happening to children in this area for quite some time. By building this park it would be the nicest thing to happen all year. Children would not just like it they would adore it. Seeing all the colors and shiny things would make them go berserk. The children would play for hours, while spending time with their parents. Parents would also love to spend time with their children. Asking them how was school or what happened today. Kids would be moving so much that we are fighting child obesity. Children now a days are getting overweight too quickly. Parents need to let them run and not watch television for three hours. Let them go to the park. Better yet go with them have fun go wild with your children. Children would have smiles for days if this project happened.

The local committee should build or restore a new Lynch park because it is worn down, it can bring the community closer together, and it is nice for the children. Lynch park is similar to a slum town. The community can be as close as water and ice. Children would be dreaming of wanting to play on the playground. Let's do this for the children.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

3-3-3-3

The writer demonstrates a general commitment to the belief that a local park needs to be completely restored. While the voice is appropriate for the purpose, it is not particularly persuasive or convincing in tone. The language is generally specific, varied and engaging. While the writer has generally anticipated the reader's questions, the reader often has to infer how the restored park would benefit some people of the community.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

I think our school could stand some new additions/changes. The first change we could use is new technology. for example, we could use some better computer towers and video card drivers. The computers are lagging way too much for me to handle. The second change we should have is giving kids computers for homework. It would help out kids who don't have a computer at home. The third change we should have is new desks. The desks are either broken, getting ready to break, or look like a cow came into the room and took a bite out of the desk. The fourth and final change we would like is the school lunch. It is so putrid, i can smell it from down the hallway. Sometimes i even wonder what i'm eating, even though they tell me. It boggles my mind to think that they could actually serve that stuff and not be joking around.

We should have all of those changes because without those changes, our classrooms would decay with age. We would be stuck with slow computers that are so slow you have to panic because your assignment might not have saved right. Sometimes when i save assignments they either are missing or corrupted. It makes me furious! Then i have to suffer with bad grades! Oh yeah, don't get me started on the school lunch! I wish we could be catered like some schools that I know of. Sometimes I get confused on what we are having. The fish looks like chicken and the chicken looks like pork and the pork looks like beef. To make it easier on myself i call it "mystery meat". Sometimes I dream that the food is going to eventually come alive.

In, conclusion, my project in my opinion is the best choice. If you don't think so, i don't know what else to tell you. I have given you all of my evidence. I just hope you make a good decision.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

2-2-3-3

The writer demonstrates a general commitment to a number of projects to improve the school. The voice is generally appropriate for the audience, but is not particularly suited for persuading or convincing a community committee. The language is generally specific, and also somewhat varied and engaging throughout. The writer has generally anticipated some of the reader's questions.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

There are lots of things a committee could do to fund a new project at school. For example, they could come up with a class that makes up for all failed class, after completing the class you get all credits needed, buy better equipment of any type for the school and or come up with a new sport students would love to sign up for. any of these choices are possible but it would be very amazing if they funded all the choices. I think the committee should improve the school by making up new courses to pass classes because it would benefit most people who are behind on credits, make graduating a easier task, and it would look good on a transcript for collage.

For me my freshman year was fun, so i thought i really didnt care would happen only until i got in trouble with the law and heard those five words, "You wont graduate on time". one year of failure to me is two years of hard work. most students here struggle everyday to main there graded where they are now and on top of that earning new ones, everyone needs help. If students could stay after school at a course to help you earn those credits, wouldnt that be a big thrill and a stress reliever ? i think thats a big yes.

Im sure by the end of your senior year you want to walk across the stage and have someone hand you your diploma. a course to help you gain credits you couldnt get would make getting that diploma an easier task. probably hiring tutors to help you too would be a great benefit.

Voice/Word Choice: 2

2-2-2-1

The writer demonstrates a limited commitment to the opinion that adding a course to help make up credits for graduation is needed. The language is only occasionally specific, precise and engaging. The voice is only sometimes appropriate for the audience as the argument seems directed toward fellow students and not to a community committee. The writer anticipates few of the reader's questions and has somewhat failed to produce a persuasive, convincing argument or opinion.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

I think the local commite sould improve are community by adding a new drag strip. That people could go enjoy whatching and bring in more people and money into the community.

The local drag strip may just convience some not them all but convience some street racers to stop street racing. But there still is alot of them that like the adrenaline rush from racing on city streets and avoding the law. The drag strip can then be certified and be apart of the NHRA racing seasons and bring in alot of racers out of state. And bring in some world famous racers like John

The drag strip would also create alot of revenue for the community by filling it with racers and people.

Voice/Word Choice: 2

2-1-2-1

In this somewhat brief response, the writer demonstrates a limited commitment to the idea that the community needs a new drag strip. The language is only occasionally specific and engaging and the voice, while somewhat appropriate to the audience, is limited. The writer has anticipated few of the reader's questions and would need to have further developed the essay to receive a higher score.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

I feel that if a local committee help fund a project for school that will help the school out. So yes i feel like its a good idea to also help out the neighborhood in community. It would be good to help with the community to make a better enviromernt. This will also be a better choose to make to the world can become closer so less violence will happen. Because me personality i would like if we had more structred and this world better neighborhoods and a better community. Also i feel like there should be more rules that people have to follow and order to live a better community and neighborhood. Maybe if we had more people caring for our community things will be alot less stressful. People could get to know each other more. People would learn to express them selves to the people thats in they community. It will be alot more happiness in the world. Also something that should be added is that people express there thoughts more to help be a better communitiy. I like the idea to help with the funding to help others out. This is more than a positive choose for them to be helping out with the community.

Voice/Word Choice: 1

1-1-1-1

The writer demonstrates little commitment to the vague topic. Language is not specific, precise, varied nor engaging, and is somewhat repetitive. The writer mostly fails to anticipate basic questions that would help understand the topic. The voice is inappropriate for the purpose.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Days and days past when we do the something over and over. Someone should change things up a bit. People shoudn't have to waist their days doing nothing. They should make something up for things like that. Instead of waiting for thing to pop up. Things could be diffrent if someone made a program for it.

Take school for an example we go to the same class everyday . They should change it up. like have only even classes on one day and odds the next day.

Voice/Word Choice: 1

1-1-1-1

The writer demonstrates little commitment to the idea of changing the school schedule. The voice is inappropriate for the purpose and makes little or no attempt at being persuasive or convincing. Language is not precise, varied nor engaging. The writer fails to anticipate the reader's questions.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

The area that would be most effectively improved as a whole for kids in this community is within schools, because of the most direct impact it would have on the kids, compared to trying to affect communities via changing neighborhood conditions. An area that could most use attention are the highschools. This is because the most significant developments the children go through are in these years, growing to be independent, work and act as a adult, and start to have privileges allowed to those of their age (driving, etc.) One of the things they often find themselves missing is the time during the day that they have to go out and run around as they could on a playground in elementary school. I am proposing that we start building playgrounds and allowing a recess time during the school day of 6th through 12th grade. This would allow the children to temporarily escape the stressful environment of the school day, encourage interest in school aside from academics and sports, and make the transitions throughout the levels of schooling flow more smoothly.

As it probably shows, the life of a teenager is often very stressful. With all of the pressure of doing well in each of their classes, and in some cases programs like IB and AP, their entire day can be overly focused on school. During the elementary years of schooling, the straightforward solution to this has been to allow the children a break during the school day (separate from lunch) to clear their day of the hardships they will have to endure in the next hours, days, and years, via distracting themselves with monkey bars and slides. This strategy has worked well enough for it to be continued to this day, but it has never been significantly used in the years after 5th grade. A viable solution to issues like graduation rate, class participation, interest in school, and performance on assessments is to make the children feel as if they aren't put in a situation singly focused on class. Building a playground and using it for these benefits would be a very effective way to lessen the concentration of the work load they have during the day, which not only improves their performance during school, but makes them less likely to take their own break right after school which often permanently removes them from the learning mindset for the night.

Although this could cause some complications in the way the days run at school, the benefits would be that the children view the school as less of an objective and restrictive working environment. The same way that schools attract attention via sports and events, having a playground would bring people that are looking to use the area on a weekend to play frisbee or tag. Most importantly improve the connection between children and their school. When middle or elementary students say, "I hate school" they say this because it offers little to no compromise to the way they are used to and want to act outside school. Using the school grounds as a place for these kids to enjoy themselves builds a positive connotation with the environment and the way they will eventually work with the school when things become more serious (college).

On a similar note as it stands now, the progression from each segment of public schooling is very individualized, with each step preparing the students for the rest of their lives in separate ways. However, this does not represent the reality of life outside school, where the progression through a career or a way of life is very linear, there are significant segmental changes that re-create the way life is experienced. If the purpose of school is to prepare the students for the way life will be for the other 75% of their life, then we should at least re-create the environment, thus changing the focus of school away from the sole purpose of grades and academic achievements. Again the creation and use of a playground for students would allow them this necessity. This environment would more accurately re-create the way life flows and replace the disruption of highschool.

After examining all of these benefits and then the cost, which would be realistically affordable for our community considering we build many city parks and ponds that sit through the years without use, the value of this implementation would be immense. At a cost that would be almost insignificant we could aid the education system by providing an environment for children to temporarily escape the stressful environment of the school day, encourage interest in school aside from academics and sports, and make the transitions throughout the levels of schooling flow more smoothly. The validity of this solution to many struggles in the education system is undeniable.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 4

4-4-4-4

Sentences vary in length and structure throughout this essay about adding recess time for older students. Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Studies show that students who participate in extra curricular activities such as athletics, do better in school than students who do not. Wayne High has many student athletes. These student athletes put in hours of extra work to become better and therefor create a good name for Wayne athletics. Having practice late at night because only one team can use the gym at one time can be physically taxing on the athletes. Wayne High should add another gym onto the facilities. Wayne High School needs another gym so that multiple practices can be held at once, multiple games can be held at once, and multiple physical education classes can be held at once.

To begin, Wayne High needs another gym so that multiple practices can be held at once. The girls and boys basketball teams have an early and a late practice; one team practices after the other has finished. This means that practice for the second team may start as late as six thirty. One team may also practice in the morning, but for athletes in activities that are held in the morning such as dance, jazz band or jazz choir, they would have to choose only one to participate in. If both teams could practice at the same time, athletes would have more time to do homework and get more sleep. The Junior High volleyball team has to practice at the Elementary School because the High School team has practice at the High School. With two gyms, the girls could practice in the separate gyms at the High School and not waste precious practice time walking to a separate school where their practice is held. During the fall, if there is weather that prevents football or cross country from practicing, they cannot use a gym. They would have a gym available to them if there were two. Therefor, Wayne High needs two gyms so that more than one practice can take place at the High School.

Next, Wayne High needs another gym so that multiple games can be held at once. The JV boys basketball team hosts home games at the Elementary School while the JV girls basketball team hosts home games in the High School gym. The Elementary School is not equipped with proper parking, and the gym is not big enough to handle the crowd of a JV game. These improper conditions lead to, for lack of a better word, a zoo. After the boys finish playing their game, they have to trek back to the High School for the Varsity boys game. The crowd also has to move with the boys to the other school to watch the Varsity boys and girls play. Tournaments held at the High School can only have games at the High School or the Elementary School. With two gyms, it would be much easier to hold tournaments. The tournaments would also be more equipped to handle many more teams, therefor bringing in more money to the school system. Hence, Wayne High needs another gym for multiple games and more tournaments to be held at the High School.

Finally, Wayne High needs another gym so that multiple physical education classes can be held at once. The Junior High and High School share one gym. Some High School classes do not have access to the gym because there is a Junior High class being held at the same time. The High School class is then forced to use the weight room. If the High School class wants to play a game of softball or football, they would have to go outside, which is nearly impossible in some Nebraskan weather. With two gyms, both physical education classes would have a gym available to use. Therefor, Wayne High needs another gym so multiple physical education classes can use a gym at one time.

In conclusion, Wayne High needs another gym for multiple practices, multiple games and multiple physical education classes to be held at one time. Wayne High athletes work hard in order to succeed. The facilities athletes are given, are the facilities they have to work with to become better athletes. The athletes' success reflects the community, so the community should do all they can to help the athletes succeed. As coaches tell their athletes, "Success leads to more success. So why not start now?"

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 4

4-3-3-4

Sentences vary in length and structure throughout this response about the need for a new gym. Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning. With the exception of a few repeated capitalization errors, grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Many kids these days stay at home and play video games, watch television, and scroll on social media websites. Rarely do they go outside and get fresh air and most importantly exercise. I believe that if the local committee funded our neighborhood enough money to build a family friendly park it would not only get children and adults out of the house for exercise, it would give families time to spend together while doing something productive. So again, I feel that it would be extremely profitable to our community if we were funded money to build a neighborhood park.

More often than not children are sitting at home on the couch watching spongebob and eating potato chips, than they are outside running around with other children their age. If there happened to be a park in the nearby neighborhood I feel as if the children sitting at home would be more likely to go to that particular park and get the exercise that they need. I know that in my household when my little cousins come to visit the first thing they do is run to the television and ask to watch cartoons. If there had been a park within walking distance I'm sure they would ask to go to that instead of watch senseless cartoons. At a park there are many, many things to do. Things like swings, slides, monkey bars, usually a field to run and play sports in. There are multiple opportunities for them to get that exercise that they need. At home there typically aren't many opportunities for a child to get that play time. A child needs typically 2 hours of exercise or play time a day which is just enough time to walk to the park, run around for an hour, and walk back home! Not to mention, It's the perfect place for families to spend time together!

I know that after a long day an adult (or even a child) is tempted to go home, kick their shoes off, and lay down on the couch for a nice nap before dinner. Instead of doing that lazy act, it would be ten times better for them to go home, change into playing clothes, and walk to the nearby park for some family bonding time. Every family could use that extra time together after not seeing each other for quite a while, while at school or at work. When I was little my dad would take me and my brother to the neighborhood park at least 3 times a week. It was a great time to run around and play together. Not only did it bring us closer together but being at a park to do it was even nicer.

Having a neighborhood park built nearby is a great way for children and even adults to get the exercise that they need to live a healthy life style. It is also the perfect excuse to get families together for bonding time. Children and their families are not exactly losing touch, but are not getting enough time together as it is because of school, work, or any other activities going on. A park would only bring them closer together by getting to spend that extra time together playing around and having fun. They're getting a great workout as well. I feel that having a neighborhood park build would bring surpassing benefits to to our community, and would be the most efficient way to spend the funded money.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 3

4-3-3-3

Sentences generally vary in length and structure in this response about a park. Phrasing generally sounds natural. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are usually correct and the errors that are evident do not distract the reader.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Although the town of Indianola is small, the town should open up a small general store. Indianola would benefit most because it would provide new jobs for the residents and surrounding areas. It would also help the town out financially, and it would be more convenient.

Right now our job market is really bad, and the town of Indianola could help improve that by allowing someone to open a small general store. There are several young people in Indianola who are on the look-out for jobs.

Opening a small general store will also help the city of Indianola make more money. There is only one gas station there and it doesn't have the essentials that a person needs like milk or bread, so opening up a general store would make a good profit from the people.

The closest grocery store to Indianola is eleven miles, and who wants to drive that far for milk? Opening a general store will help the customers because it's really close. Not only will it help people in Indianola but also it will help people in the surrounding communities.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 3

2-2-2-3

Sentences generally vary in length and structure in this response about the need for a general store in the community. Phrasing generally sounds natural. Grammar, usage and punctuation are usually correct, and a few spelling errors do not distract the reader.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Stop the violence! Let us live in peace! The society we live in today have a horrifying violence rates around the country. Many students are dropping out of high school and are unemployed. Many of our descendants died to see the day where everyone can stand together and live in peace. Some fought for better education rights to make it to college for higher degrees, therefore they would have a higher paying job. A local committee will fund one project to improve our community by stopping the violence of our youth, decreasing the unemployment rate and increasing the number of students graduating from high school.

Youth violence affects the communities health and it is one of the leading causes of death. The community needs the youth to get more involved in sports and after school programs to be a resource of stopping the violence. The committee will help fund after school programs for kids, to prevent them from getting caught up in trouble. After school programs, can prevent students from running the street and getting into drama. Mentors and guest speakers, that have been in same situations and that can relate to our youth, will be involved. Sports, can also stop students from getting involved in the violence and can motivate them into using their talent in college. It is also a greater advantage of them getting into college and receiving scholarships. Jobs is also an advantage of stopping the violence because it can keep them positive and help their minds focused on something other than the streets. The community can have job fair and promote them around high schools and counselors offices to get students attention. Counselors can help students look for jobs and help them fill out applications.

Unemployment has a lot to do with the communities appearance. The community should come together and be there for one another. The committee should invest in college classes available for people that can not afford it on their own. College is one step ahead to a better life. Most people who go to college recieve better jobs and are wealthier. The community should allow people to do interships to help them get a job. The inteship can allow them to get a scholarship or to keep the job they are intershipping for. The job intership can teach work ethinics and communications skills.

Students who drop out of high school are more likely to be unemployed or involved in violence. The community should have the committee invest in mentors. A mentor can be there to guide you and motivate you. They should be someone to look up to. A mentor can encourage to stay in high school because most jobs require you to have at least a high school diploma. School counselors are also there to listen and help students out through hard times. Counselors can help students fill out scholarships and college applications. Even if college is not fit for the student the counselor can guide the student into finding out what they like to do and what job would be fit for them.

In conclusion, the committee would have to fund in a lot for the community, but it will help improve it by helping to stop the violence in our youth, decreasing the unemployment rate and increasing the number of high school graduates.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 2

3-3-3-2

Sentences occasionally vary in length and structure in this response about funding programs to help prevent violence, decrease unemployment and improve graduation rates in the community. Some awkward phrasing is evident, and only occasionally sounds natural. Sentence errors sometimes cause confusion. A pattern of grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors may distract the reader.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

The thing that I think should get changed in school is that kids should be able to wear hats, but not crazy hats. Crazy hats to me are the ones that stick up high in the air, or stick out to people with a lot of words or cuss words. But I think we should be able to wear winter hats during school. Some reasons are that maybe their heads are cold, maybe it looks good they think, or maybe they are having a bad hair day. I personally would wear one just to keep my head warm, or if I was cold. Sometimes I would wear them just to wear them. I myself just don't get why it's such a big deal in school, but it is so I just follow the rules. I also think if they let us wear hats, not as many people would wear them because it wouldn't be the same anymore. Some kids do it just to make the teachers mad and think it's funny.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 2

1-1-2-2

Sentences occasionally vary in length and structure in this response about wearing hats in school.

Phrasing occasionally sounds awkward. While sentences are mostly correct, a few errors sometimes confuse the reader. For the amount of writing demonstrated, there are a number of grammar, usage, and punctuation errors that are distracting to the reader.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

Their are so many places we can go for school lunch and many foods we can try if we havent had befor at school. But what is the reason we cant do any of that or have any of that food at central.

hi! I go to () High School. Were people come from every were to get into are school because we are none as the best high school in the United States. So why when it comes to central school lunch we dont get the best food that us the students desirve and want. Which bring me to off school campus lunch.

We have Burger King, Mc. Donolds and all these other places and restrants we can go to to eat but, instead we have to stay in school. at least if you'er going to keep us in school to eat, bring the outside food in to school.

Because the food you guys are serving us now only about 70% of people dont like it, but they eat it because hollo there is nouthing else here we can eat, but candy and we want reall food im sure. and for the people who have to pay for hunch.

wieth is like all of us really desrive to be choosing and geting the food they want to eat because they are sitting here not speaking up eating this stuff they dont want to because there is no other choose of foods here. same goes for breakfast the breakfast we have here its just sad only thing thats good is the freash fruit and the ceral.

this one time when i was a sophmore i came 2 school and eat breakfast because i was pregnant a hungry so i had to eat. they had some breakfast pizza and i thought ohh ill try that but i must have gotten the wrong peice because

when i tryed it my theird bite into it i threw up because it was so nasty, there was a peice of sasage that was not cooked all the way. now come on () yall better then that. so yall say yall the best school were the best food at people would be more happer if we can go get the food we want to spend are money on.

all we asking for is some better food and if yall cant make that happen then try letting us get off campus lunch because there is not many reasons why that is not a option for us only reasons yall do give us is that people want come back on time for class, People are going to do something they aint got no bissness doing but, with out off campus lunch all the reasons yall are giving us about what students would do if there is off campus lunch is happing now even as we speak. And we dont even have off campus lunch.

students are still skipping, being late, fighting and smoking. There is no big differance there. So whats the big dill.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 1

2-1-2-1

Numerous grammar, usage, and punctuation, errors throughout this response distract the reader. Fragments and run-ons often confuse the reader, and phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural.

A local committee will fund one project to improve your school, neighborhood, or community. Think about something you feel should be added or changed.

Write a persuasive essay convincing the committee your project is the best choice. Provide reasons and/or examples to support your argument.

The school distric should change they're computer from Mac to Windows based operating system. It would open up for diffrent software and allow the school to have a more brode arue of diffrent soft the school could have open to students. It would allsohelp studes have a more brode understanding of diffrent software instead of most Mac operated software.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 1

1-1-1-1

Sentences seldom vary in length and structure in this response, and the sentences are often unclear with errors confusing the reader. Phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural. Numerous grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors distract the reader throughout this somewhat brief response.